(f) whether there is any proposal to further extend the term of the Commitee; and

(g) by when the Committee is expected to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) The Goswamy-Wadh-wa Committee was constituted on 23-3-88 to enquire into and record their findings on the following:—

(i) The incident of 15th January, 1988 in St. Stephen's College, University of Delhi regarding apprehension of a lawayer by the police.

(ii) The incident and reported lathi charge on 21st January, 1988 outside the office of the DCP/North, Delhi.

(iii) Circumstances leading to presence of a mob in Tis Hazari premises on 17th February, 1988 and the resultant violence.

(iv) Any other incidental development connected with the above. The final report was to be submitted wihin three months.

(c) 87.

(d) An amount of Rs. 6,74,713 has been incurred on the Committee till date.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The present term of the Committee has been extended upto 22-5-89.

(g) The Committee has examined the public witnesses and Advocates u/s 8-B of the Act. The police officers falling under setion 8-B have filed a Civil Writ Petition in the Delhi High Court. The continuance of further proceedings by the Committee now depends upon the result of the said writ petition.

Panel of Chief Justices on pendencyof cases in Courts

456. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:
SHRI T. R. BALU:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had in the past constituted any panel of Chief Justices to study the problem of arrears and pendency of cases in High Courts;

(b) if so, what are the names of its members and what were its terms of reference;

(c) by when it is expected to submit its reports;

(d) how many vacancies of judges are there in the High Courts in each State as on date; and

(e) how many posts of Chief Justices are presently vacant and since when and also the steps taken to fill up all these vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) Government have, in the recent past, constituted a Committee of three Chief Justices of the High Courts to study the problem of arrears in the High Courts and Subordinate Courts and to suggest remedial measures. Composition of the Committee is as follows:

1. Shri Justice V. S. Malimath, Chief Justice, Kerala High Court.... Chairman

2. Shri Justice P. D. Desai, Chief Justice, Calcutta High Court.... Member

Chief Justice, Karnataka High Court... Member

(c) The Committee has been asked to submit its report to the Government as soon as possible.

(d) As on 19-4-1989, there were 67 vacancies of Judges in the High Courts, as shown below:

Sl. No.	Name of the High Court	No. of vacancies
1.	Allahabad	12
2.	Andhra Pradesh	6
3.	Bombay	6
4.	Calcutta	2
5.	Delhi	5
6.	Gauhati	1
7.	Gujarat	6
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2
9.	Karnataka	5
10.	Kerala	1
11.	Madhya Pradesh	5
12.	Madras	4
13.	Patna	6
14.	Punjab & Haryana	2
15.	Rajasthan	2
16.	Sikkim	2
	TOTAL	67

(e) Posts of Chief Justices are vacant in three High Courts the first since 19-1-1988, the second since 14-3-1988 and the third since 5-1-1989. The matter of appointment of permanent Chief Justices in these High Courts is engaging the attention of the Government.

Action on Jaswant Singh Commission Report

457. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:
SHRI T. R. BALU:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state how many States have taken action on Jaswant Singh Commission Report so far alongwith the names of State Governments and the action taken by them?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): The Government of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu have indicated that they are considering the recommendations of the Jaswant Singh Commission in respect of the concerned High Courts.

Bench of Madras High Court at Madurai

458. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:
SHRI T. R. BALU:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 3529 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 30th March, 1989 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Madras High Cour bench at Madurai is not being constituted because of shortage of judges;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken in this regard; and

(c) by when the vacancy of Chief Justice will be filled?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Government have taken steps to fill up the vanacy of Chief Justice in the Madras High Court. It is, however, not possible to indicate when the vacancy will be filled up.

Joint Ventures with the Soviet Union

459. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ten India-oriented proposals for commercial deals, transfer of technology, co-production and joint venture have been identified by the Soviet Union;